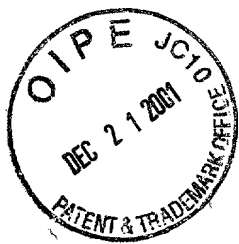


12-31-01

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN RE : Douglas LeCrone and Paul A. Linstead
SERIAL NO. : 09/966,639
FILED : September 28, 2001
FOR : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENHANCING ACCESS TO
REDUNDANT DATA STORAGE FACILITIES

December 21, 2001

BOX MISSING PARTS
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10, Express Mail No. ET474602750US, in an envelope addressed to BOX MISSING PARTS, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 21, 2001.

Mary C. Hoggard

MARY C. HOGGARD

December 21, 2001

December 21, 2001

Sir:

Response to Notice To File Missing Parts of Application

In response to a Notice to File Missing Parts of Application - Filing Date Granted form mailed October 24, 2001 in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicant submits the following documents:

1. A copy of a Notice to File Missing Parts of Application - Filing Date Granted;
2. A Declaration signed by Douglas LeCrone and Paul A. Linstead; and

3. Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 (9 sheets)

REMARKS

Applicant believes that the attached Declaration satisfies the requirements for providing a signature to an Oath or Declaration. The Declaration is signed by the named inventors, Douglas LeCrone and Paul A. Linstead and complies with 37 C.F.R. 1.63.

Respectfully Submitted,



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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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CONFIRMATION NO. 4987

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

2. Once the problem is identified, the next step is to define the objectives and goals of the project. This helps to clarify what needs to be achieved and provides a clear direction for the team.

3. The third step is to develop a plan or strategy to address the problem. This involves breaking down the problem into smaller, manageable tasks and determining the resources needed to complete each task.

4. The fourth step is to implement the plan. This involves putting the strategy into action and monitoring progress regularly to ensure that the project is on track.

5. The final step is to evaluate the results of the project. This involves comparing the actual outcomes with the objectives and goals to determine the effectiveness of the project.

OC000000006961539

Date Mailed: 10/24/2001

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is unsigned.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because:
 - drawing sheets do not have the appropriate margin(s) (see 37 CFR 1.84(g)). Each sheet must include a top margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a left side margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a right side margin of at least 1.5 cm. (5/8 inch), and a bottom margin of at least 1.0 cm. (3/8 inch);

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE